

**To:** Zito, Kelly[ZITO.KELLY@EPA.GOV]; Strauss, Alexis[Strauss.Alexis@epa.gov]  
**From:** Blumenfeld, Jared  
**Sent:** Mon 11/16/2015 2:01:22 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: R9 Weekender

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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** <BLUMENFELD.JARED@EPA.GOV>  
**Date:** November 15, 2015 at 6:01:04 PM PST  
**To:** Gina Adm13McCarthy <Adm13McCarthy.Gina@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Stan Meiburg <meiburg.stan@epa.gov>, Ben Scaggs <Ben Scaggs>, Lou Pieh <Lou Pieh>, Arian Herckis <Arian Herckis>, Liz Purchia <Liz Purchia>, "Nichole Distefano" <Nichole Distefano>, Micah Ragland <Micah Ragland>, Nancy Grantham <Nancy Grantham>, Laura Vaught <Laura Vaught>, Avi Garbow <Avi Garbow>, "Mark Rupp" <Mark Rupp>, "Matthew R. Fritz" <fritz.matthew@epa.gov>, Joel Beauvais <Beauvais.Joel@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** R9 Weekender

**SF Bay Delta:** we received a 60-day notice from various environmental NGOs regarding triennial review of California's water quality standards for the San Francisco Bay Delta, also asserting that Gov. Brown's 2014 Emergency Drought Proclamation was a modification of SF Bay Delta standards subject to EPA review and action. To preserve the option of higher-level review, this past week I sent a letter to the Army Corps identifying the proposed Bay Delta twin-tunnel project as a candidate for Corps and EPA HQ review. The CWA discharges associated with building the project could eliminate about 775 acres of wetlands in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, and further degrade water quality and the aquatic ecosystem.

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**Tribal Water Conservation:** The Santa Rosa Tribe's Environmental Department has worked with elected leadership, tribal police, and community members to develop and enforce a community-wide water conservation ordinance which limits outside watering, and levies fines on members in non-compliance. As a result, the tribe has reduced water consumption about 31% from figures prior to ordinance development.

**Navajo Abandoned Uranium Mines:** We met with Dine College (AZ) to discuss development of a Tronox-focused internship program designed to provide educational and vocational opportunities to Navajo students matriculated through multiple institutions: Dine College campuses, Northern Arizona University, Navajo Technical University, and New

Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology. This complements our earlier outreach to tribal small businesses: with HQ Office of Small Business Programs, we'll participate in *The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development - Reservation Economic Summit* being held November 16-19 in Santa Fe, NM.

**Communities:** next week, Matt Tejada will meet with the Sonoran Environmental Research Institute (SERI) on November 17 to discuss their EJ grant, which funds a low-interest loan program for Tucson-area residents to purchase rainwater-harvesting equipment. Matt will also participate in events related to two Making a Visible Difference (MVD) communities in Region 9: he'll meet with the environmental director of the Gila River Indian Community to hear about their EJ and enforcement concerns. In Imperial Valley, he will participate in the Stop and Listen Asthma Forum in El Centro and the 6th Annual Imperial Valley Environmental Health Leadership Summit. Matt will also meet with Ana Mascaranes, CA Dept. of Toxic Substances Control's Associate Director for EJ and Diane Takvorian of the Environmental Health Coalition in San Diego.

**San Joaquin Air Rule:** I plan to sign approval of revisions to San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SVJAPCD) Rule 4702, which lower the oxides of nitrogen (NOx) limit for many IC engines in the Valley to 11 ppm, similar to the South Coast's rule, both believed to be the lowest in the country. Environmentalists may object because, unlike South Coast's rule, the SVJAPCD rule allows sources to pay a fee in lieu of meeting the 11 ppm limit. Affected IC engines are used to irrigate agriculture, power oil wells, and support other Valley industries.

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